GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1709
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2006
INCREASE IN IMPORT OF ITEMS
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Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of items whose import has increased during the last three years and the current year;

(b) the reasons for increase in import; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to reduce imports of these items?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) & (b) The top commodities whose imports have increased during the last three years include petroleum crude & products; machinery except electrical and electronics; electronics goods; gold, pearls, precious and semi-precious stones, etc. Most of the commodities recording a higher growth of import reflect the growth of demand for raw-materials, intermediate products and capital goods from the manufacturing sector or growth of commodity prices as in the case of crude oil.

(c) Whereas promotion of export is an important objective of the Government's Trade Policy, imports are largely governed by the emerging needs of the economy and international prices of commodities. The Government normally does not take measures to restrict imports which may lead to dampening of the growth in the economy and resurgence of inflationary pressures.